



Department of Justice

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INMATE SENTENCED TO 21 MONTHS FOR SENDING HOAX ANTHRAX LETTER

- Letter contained threat and white powder

LOUISVILLE, Ky. - Fred Luckenbill, age 35, of the Little Sandy Correctional Complex, Sandy Hook, KY, was sentenced to 21 months imprisonment in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, for mailing a threatening communication in violation of 18 U.S.C. 876 (c), U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky announced today. Chief Judge John G. Heyburn II, United States District Court, also sentenced Luckenbill to 3 years supervised release following incarceration. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

Luckenbill admitted that on September 5, 2002, while an inmate at the Kentucky State Penitentiary, Eddyville, KY, he mailed a letter to the Clerk of the United States District Court at the Gene Snyder U.S. Courthouse in Louisville. The envelope contained a white powdery substance and a letter with the words "Death to all state and government officials, death to the United States, Anthrax." As a result of the letter, the U.S. District Court Clerk's office was temporarily closed. The white powder contained in the envelope was tested and determined not to be hazardous.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael A. Bennett, and it was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation Joint Terrorism Task Force and the United States Marshals Service.

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